

7. Abstract of the Disclosure

The present invention is characterized by the following:
incident illumination and oblique illumination are performed
on a scratch and a foreign material, which have been made on a
surface of a polished or a ground insulating layer, with
substantially the same luminous flux; and on the basis of a
correlation such as a ratio of intensity of scattered light
generated by the shallow scratch and the foreign material
between the incident illumination and the oblique
illumination, the shallow scratch is discriminated from the
foreign material.

10050775-041202